LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Canceled)

Claim 2 (Original): ~~The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein~~ A process for producing a foamed article of a thermoplastic resin composition by causing the resin composition to foam up in a cavity of a mold, comprising

a primary injection step in which a part amount of the thermoplastic resin composition is injected into the mold cavity defined by a stationary mold element and a movable mold element settled at a position confining the mold cavity to a smaller volume than the total volume of the thermoplastic resin composition necessary for making up the complete foamed article, while imposing a clamping pressure on the movable mold element so as to settle it at the position,

a secondary injection step, subsequent to the primary injection step, in which the residual amount of the thermoplastic resin composition is further injected into the mold cavity, while drawing the movable mold element back from the position settled for the primary injection step so as to increase the cavity volume, and

a foaming step subsequent to the secondary injection step, in which injection of the thermoplastic resin composition is stopped and the movable mold element is further drawn back so as to permit the thermoplastic resin composition to foam up,

wherein the thickness L_0 of the mold cavity at the start of the primary injection step is in the range from 1.0 to 1.5 mm, the injection time of the primary injection step is 1.5 seconds or less and the pressure imposed on the movable mold element in the primary injection step is in

the range from 5 to 20 MPa with respect to the sectional area of the mold cavity in the projection onto the mold base plane and wherein

the ratio of the thickness L_0 of the mold cavity at the start of the primary injection step relative to the thickness L_1 at the end of the secondary injection step, namely, L_0/L_1, is in the range from 0.3 to 1.0.

Claims 3-12 (Canceled)

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The process of claim 2, wherein the ~~recession of the movable mold element subsequent to the secondary injection~~ drawing back of the movable mold element during the foaming step begins within 5 seconds from the termination of the secondary injection step.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The process of claim ~~1~~ 2, further comprising compressing the foamed article by pressing the movable mold element onto the foamed article within 60 seconds from the termination of the foaming step.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 13, further comprising compressing the foamed article by pressing the movable mold element onto the foamed article within 60 seconds from the termination of the foaming step.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The process of claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein the thermoplastic resin composition comprises a polyolefin resin and a foaming agent.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 15, wherein the thermoplastic resin composition comprises a polyolefin resin and a foaming agent.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 16 wherein the polyolefin resin is a polypropylene resin.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 17 wherein the polyolefin resin is a polypropylene resin.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 16, wherein the polyolefin resin has a melt flow rate, determined according to ASTM D 1238 at 230° C under a load of 2.16 kg, in the range of from 30 to 200 g/10 min.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 17, wherein the polyolefin resin has a melt flow rate, determined according to ASTM D 1238 at 230°C under a load of 2.16 kg, in the range of from 30 to 200 g/10 min.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn): A foamed article of a thermoplastic resin composition produced by the process of claim 1.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): A foamed article of a thermoplastic resin composition produced by the process of claim 17.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): The foamed article of claim 22, having a solid skin layer with a thickness in the range of from 0.1 to 0.7 mm.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): The foamed article of claim 23, having a solid skin layer with a thickness in the range of from 0.1 to 0.7 mm.

Claim 26 (Withdrawn): The foamed article of claim 22, having a foaming expansion ratio in the range of from 1.05 to 5 times the non-expanded original volume.

Claim 27 (Withdrawn): The foamed article of claim 23, having a foaming expansion ratio in the range of from 1.05 to 5 times the non-expanded original volume.

Claim 28 (Withdrawn): The foamed article of claim 24, having a foaming expansion ratio in the range of from 1.05 to 5 times the non-expanded original volume.

Claim 29 (Withdrawn): The foamed article of claim 25, having a foaming expansion ratio in the range of from 1.05 to 5 times the non-expanded original volume.

Claim 30 (Withdrawn): Automotive parts as foamed articles produced by the process of claim 1.

Claim 31 (Withdrawn): Automotive parts as foamed articles produced by the process of claim 21.